

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT APPLICATION

5 ENTITLED : A NIB AND METHODS OF TREATING AN ELONGATE  
ELEMENT DESIGNED TO FORM SUCH A NIB

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The nib is constituted by a segment of a coherent,  
elongate element of high porosity material, with at least  
20 a first end shaped to form a writing tip. The pores  
and/or capillaries of said material are blocked over a  
limited thickness e, in particular in the range 0.01 mm  
to 1 mm, at the longitudinal outer periphery of the  
elongate element, with the exception of the first end  
25 forming a writing tip. In a first variant, blocking is  
obtained by a sealing agent and performed by continuously  
impregnating the elongate element with a sealing bath,  
and setting the agent. In a second variant, the nib is  
constituted by sintered microbeads and blocking is  
30 obtained by localized hot-melting of the microbeads.